



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A Draught of Virginia from the Capes to York in York River and to Kuiquotan or Hamton in James River by Mark Tiddeman

Stock#: 55267
Map Maker: Grierson
Date: 1767 circa
Place: London
Color:
Condition: VG
Size: 23 x 18 inches
Price: \$4,500.00



Description:

Rare Dublin Edition!

Rare Dublin edition of Mark Tidemann's sea chart of the region bounded by the York River, Williamsburg, James City Isle, Nansimond River, Elizabeth River, Norfolk, Cape Henry, Cape Charles, and the southern portion of Delaware, centered on the Chesapeake.

The chart includes soundings, rivers, islands bays, capes, and some early settlements, including Norfolk, Newport News, Sheldens, Hamton, Old Pecoson, York, Gochester, Tindles Fort, etc.

As noted by Morrison & Hansen, the map provides the most complete survey of the region to that date and represents an important step in the period between the Augustine Herman map of 1689 and Hoxton's map of 1735.

Mark Tiddeman was a master of the British Vessel Tartar. From 1724 to 1728, he made soundings of the harbor of New York and the Hampton Roads area at the mouth of the Chesapeake. His charts were furnished to Mount & Page for the revised edition of the *English Pilot, Fourth Book* and were first issued in 1729.

While previously believed to have been issued in 1747, a unique copy of the complete pilot in the Boston Athenaeum suggests that this chart was first issued in a 1730 Dublin edition of *The English Pilot*. The



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Fourth Book published by George Grierson. Grierson in turn, copied a chart issued by Samuel Thornton in 1706. The present example was issued in the 1767 reissue of the Dublin printing by Grierson's son Boulter Grierson.

George Grierson (c.1678 - 1753)

Scottish born George Grierson was one of the most important publishers, editors and mapmakers in 18th-century Ireland. Dublin was then one of the most important cities in the British Empire, being a bustling port and a financial and services center. Its publishing sector remained underdeveloped however, hampered by ongoing political instability, a relatively strict regime of official censorship, and the overwhelming market dominance of London printers. Particularly with respect to cartographic printing, Dublin's footprint was miniscule, and even most surveys of Ireland being printed in England. Grierson stepped into the void and more than any other figure transformed Dublin into major printing hub.

Much misinformation has been written about Grierson, and one easily gains the erroneous impression that he was some sort of disreputable fly-by-night journeyman printer subsisting on the piracy of others' intellectual property. In reality, he was an innovative entrepreneur, the leading publisher in Ireland, and a respected member of the Dublin upper class. While he printed works originated by others, he always did this within copyright laws and always with attribution. In this sense, he was no different than any map maker who issued his own edition of a map previously published (a common and well-accepted practice).

Grierson started out printing Bibles and other religious texts, but eventually moved into printing classics and literature. He produced important editions of Milton's *Paradise Lost* and Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*. His series of affordable pocket-sized books, *Grierson's Classics*, were bestsellers of the era.

Grierson died in 1753, but his printing business was continued, first by his eldest son George, who died in 1755 and was succeeded by his younger brother Boulter (d. 1771). Boulter reissued the *English Pilot* in 1767, with no changes to the plates, a copy of which supplied the chart of New England offered here.

Rarity

All Grierson charts are rare, the present one particularly so: We locate no record of another example having appeared on the market, though the firm of Arkway offered a copy of the full atlas for \$58,000 in 2002.

Detailed Condition:



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**A Draught of Virginia from the Capes to York in York River and to Kuiquotan or
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Minor restoration at lower right corner with some facsimile and a bit more along the bottom blank margin,
with some minor facsimile work.